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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 22, 2002**

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# **DOUGLAS WOMAN CONVICTED OF IMPORTING 155 POUNDS OF COCAINE**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that on March 21, 2002, a federal jury in Tucson, Arizona convicted Deyanira Mancha, 46, of Douglas, Arizona, of Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine and Importation of Cocaine.

Mancha is the ex-wife of former Border Patrol Agent Jorge Mancha, who was convicted in 1997 of numerous cocaine and marijuana charges, and currently is serving a 30 year sentence in federal prison.

The evidence at trial showed that on July 2, 2000, Mancha had entered the Douglas port of entry driving a pickup truck registered to another individual. A subsequent inspection of the truck revealed a false bed compartment which contained 70 packages of cocaine having a total weight of approximately 155 pounds and a purity of 94%.

Mancha was charged with violating Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952(a) and 841(a)(1). The case was tried before District Court Judge John M. Roll beginning on March 19, 2002, and concluding with the jury's guilty verdicts on March 21, 2002.

A conviction for possession with intent to distribute over 5 kilograms of cocaine carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment with a mandatory minimum term of ten years, a \$4 million fine, or both.

(MORE)

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Customs Service in Douglas, Arizona.

The prosecution was handled by Carin C. Duryée, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-00-1046-TUC-JMR  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-067

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